

CLAIMS:

1. An isolated microorganism strain of *Lactobacillus salivarius* selected from the group consisting of Salm-9, List40-18 and List40-41.
2. The isolated microorganism of claim 1 wherein the strain is Salm-9.
3. The isolated microorganism of claim 1 wherein the strain is List40-18.
4. The isolated microorganism of claim 1 wherein the strain is List40-41.
5. An isolated microorganism strain List40-13 of *Streptococcus cristatus*.
6. The isolated microorganism of claim 1 or 5, wherein the strain is provided as a concentrate in the form of a frozen or lyophilized powder.
7. A composition comprising a defined competitive exclusion formulation and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said defined competitive exclusion formulation comprises an isolated microorganism strain selected from the group consisting of *Streptococcus cristatus* List40-13, *Lactobacillus salivarius* Salm-9, *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-18 and *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-41.
8. The composition of claim 7 wherein said defined competitive exclusion formulation comprises the isolated microorganism strain *Streptococcus cristatus* List40-13 and an isolated microorganism *Lactobacillus salivarius* strain selected from the group consisting of Salm-9, List40-18 and List40-41.

9. A composition comprising a defined competitive exclusion formulation and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, said defined competitive exclusion formulation comprising isolated microorganism strains *Streptococcus cristatus* List40-13 and *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-41.

10. The defined competitive exclusion formulation of claim 9 further comprising isolated microorganism strains *Lactobacillus salivarius* Salm-9 and *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-18.

11. The composition of any of claims 7-10 wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier comprises water.

12. The composition of any of claims 7-10 formed as feed for poultry.

13. The composition of any of claims 7-10 in the form of a frozen or lyophilized powder.

14. A method for inhibiting enteropathogenic colonization of poultry, said method comprising the steps of administering to said poultry a defined competitive exclusion formulation comprising an isolated microorganism strain selected from the group consisting of *Streptococcus cristatus* List40-13, *Lactobacillus salivarius* Salm-9, *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-18 and *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-41.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the defined competitive exclusion formulation comprises an isolated microorganism strain *Streptococcus cristatus* List40-13 and an isolated microorganism *Lactobacillus salivarius* strain selected from the group consisting of Salm-9, List40-18 and List40-41.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein the defined competitive exclusion composition comprises *Streptococcus cristatus* List40-13, *Lactobacillus salivarius* Salm-9, *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-18 and *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-41.

17. The method of claim 14 wherein the enteropathogen is selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella*.

18. The method of claim 14 wherein the enteropathogen is selected from the group consisting of *Campylobacter*.

19. The method of claim 14 or 16 wherein the competitive exclusion composition is administered orally.

20. The method of claim 19 wherein the competitive exclusion composition is administered in combination with feed for said poultry.

21. The method of claim 19 wherein the competitive exclusion composition is administered in the drinking water for said poultry.

22. The method of claim 19 wherein the competitive exclusion composition is administered by spraying the formulation directly on the poultry.

23. The method of any of claims 19-22 wherein the composition is administered to newborn chicks, ranging in age from about 1 to about 4 days post hatching.

24. The method of claim 23 wherein the administered step comprises administering a single daily dose on two consecutive days.

25. A method of inhibiting the growth of an enteropathogenic bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter*, said method comprising the step of contacting the enteropathogen with a defined bacterial composition comprising an isolated bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Streptococcus cristatus* List40-13, *Lactobacillus salivarius* Salm-9, *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-18 and *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-41, or a product produced by said bacteria.

26. A method for reducing levels of enteropathogenic bacteria, selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter*, in poultry, said method comprising the step of contacting the enteropathogen with a composition comprising an isolated bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Streptococcus cristatus* List40-13, *Lactobacillus salivarius* Salm-9, *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-18 and *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-41, or a product produced by said bacteria, in an amount effective to reduce said enteropathogenic bacteria levels.

27. The method of claim 26 wherein the said composition comprises an isolated microorganism strain *Streptococcus cristatus* List40-13 and an isolated microorganism *Lactobacillus salivarius* strain selected from the group consisting of Salm-9, List40-18 and List40-41.

28. The method of claim 27 wherein the defined competitive exclusion composition comprises *Streptococcus cristatus* List40-13, *Lactobacillus salivarius* Salm-9, *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-18 and *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-41.

29. The method of claim 26 wherein the competitive exclusion composition is administered in combination with feed for said poultry.

30. The method of claim 26 wherein the competitive exclusion composition is administered in the drinking water for said poultry.